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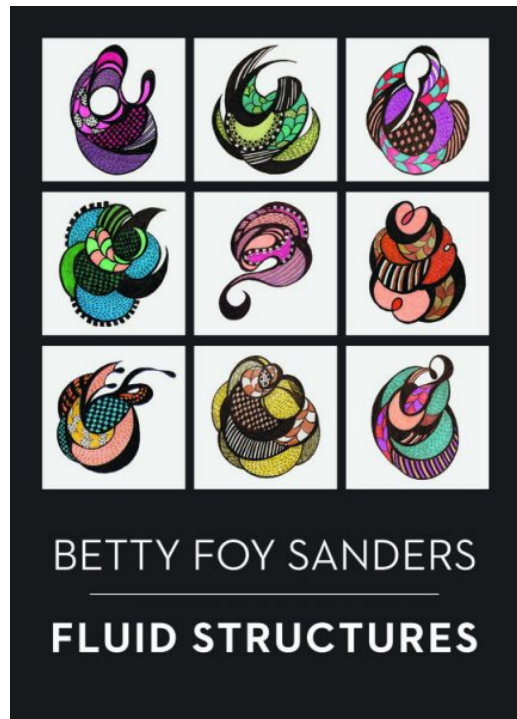
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Center for Art & Theatre to present Betty Foy Sanders' final exhibition

AUGUST 9, 2017



After spending more than half a century making art, Betty Foy Sanders will present her final exhibition this fall at Georgia Southern University.

As part of the Betty Foy Sanders Georgia Artists Collection 50th Anniversary events, the exhibition, "Fluid Structures," will be presented at the Center for Art & Theatre's University Gallery from Sept. 25 – Oct. 13. It will be on view during the Georgia Artists Collection 50th Anniversary Celebration, a special event, beginning at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 28.

"Fluid Structures' would be a top-tier exhibition under any circumstances, but the fact that it marks the culmination of a love of art-making that dates back to the mid-century, post-war era makes this fresh and exciting exhibition all the more impressive," says Gallery Director

Jason Hoelscher. "The suite of drawings, or Doodles, as Mrs. Sanders calls them, looks as contemporary as anything on exhibit at the most contemporary galleries, anywhere. This recent body of drawings, combined with a selection of other recent paintings and mixed media works, makes this is a must-see show by one of the Southeast's most vibrant artists."

At age 91, the 74th first lady of Georgia (1963-67) has never stopped looking for ways to challenge her artistic skills. From watercolors to oils, to ink, rocks and minerals, her work spans a range of mediums and reflects a variety of influences. While "Fluid Structures" will focus on her newest body of work, work from each of her eras—including Native American, Wildflowers and Rocks & Minerals—will be highlighted in the Georgia Artists Collection 50th Anniversary Exhibition.

Sanders has a deep love of art and her home state, which has driven her work both in and out of the studio. In her own artwork, Sanders has explored Georgia's flora and fauna, geology, history and coastal regions. During her time as first lady, she and her late husband, Gov. Carl Sanders, contributed greatly to arts programs across the state, creating the Georgia Council for the Arts and Humanities, establishing community arts organizations, and building arts facilities for public institutions, such as Georgia Southern's Foy Fine Arts Building, named for her father. Sanders is the

founder and curator of Georgia Southern's Betty Foy Sanders Georgia Artists Collection, which celebrates notable artists across the state and will mark its 50th anniversary this year. She and Gov. Sanders have given generously to the University's Art Department, which is named in her honor.

For more information about the Georgia Artists Collection, please visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu/CAT. To RSVP to the special 50th Anniversary event on Sept. 28, please contact cstoddard@georgiasouthern.edu or (912) 478-6667.

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) is the largest of the eight colleges that make up Georgia Southern University, and it plays a central role in every student's core of knowledge. CLASS, also described as the University's College of the Creative Mind, prepares students to achieve academic excellence, develop their analytical skills, enhance their creativity and embrace their responsibilities as citizens of their communities, their nations and the world. CLASS offers more than 20 undergraduate degrees and several interdisciplinary minors from its 11 departments and five academic centers. CLASS offers eight master's degrees, two graduate certificates and one doctoral degree. For more information, visit class.georgiasouthern.edu.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers 118 degree programs serving 20,673 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. Georgia Southern is recognized for its student-centered and hands-on approach to education. Visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu.

Quarterly survey results suggest Georgia CEO readers remain optimistic

AUGUST 9, 2017

The results of the 2017 second quarter (Q2) *Georgia CEO* survey suggest that Georgia business leaders' confidence levels have returned to close to Q4 of 2016 levels.

The purpose of the survey is to better understand how general business conditions are impacting *Georgia CEO* subscribers on a quarterly basis. *Georgia CEO* partners with the Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development (BBRED), a member of the Georgia Southern University College of Business, to prepare, distribute and analyze the survey.

In Q2 of 2017, survey participants showed an increase in confidence in hiring by businesses and in their own employment prospects. Looking ahead to Q3, participants noted about the same level of confidence as was exhibited in the Q2 survey responses.

"It appears that an increase in demand for goods and services is starting to lead to more hiring and a brighter picture for the labor market," said Ben McKay, research specialist at BBRED.

When asked directly for their outlook on Georgia business conditions, 47 percent believe conditions are improving, and 46 percent view conditions as unchanged. This remains a positive outlook from previous surveys conducted this year, since the surveys reported high levels of optimism.

Looking forward, the survey suggests general business conditions will be better over the next three months. Factors such as interest rate increases, access to credit and cost of labor are not impacting the views of survey respondents. Volume of business and sales are hovering around the 50 percent mark, while financial health remains steady.

Looking back over the past three months, 43 percent of respondents viewed hiring by their firm as favorable, an increase from 36 percent in the Q1 survey. Participants also expect an increase in their own employment prospects, from 37 percent in Q1 to 45 percent in Q2. Combining hiring and employment, participants could be feeling the effects of an improving statewide job market. Also noted in this survey's responses are potential restraints on feelings regarding government policy and a shortage of skilled labor; however, increasing demand seems to be driving the surge in optimism.

A convenience sampling technique was used for this study and the questionnaire was emailed to subscribers of each of nine *Georgia CEO* daily newsletters. *Georgia CEO* publishes a newsletter in Albany, Athens, Augusta, Columbus, Middle Georgia, Newnan, Savannah and Valdosta. The survey was open from July 6, 2017, through July 17, 2017, and 195 valid responses were collected.